

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2001

This is Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with its weekly news bulletin. This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and packet bulletin boards.

Silent key

We regret to announce the passing away of Hugo Thiart, ZS1XB, on 11 November after long illness. In the early years he was a very active in Boland. To his wife Grieta and children we offer our sincere condolences.

PAUSE

Here are the headlines of today's news:

FINAL RESULTS OF SARL VHF/UHF COMPETITION

NEXT RAE ON 23 MAY 2002

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL AND MOTIONS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ANTENNA LAWS WILL STILL BITE SOUTH AFRICAN AMATEURS

RADIO AMATEUR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

AFRICA TELECOM 2001

SARL TO PUBLISH CALL BOOK

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARCONI'S HISTORIC TRANS-ATLANTIC RADIO TRANSMISSION

You are listening to ZS6SRL. The news follows in detail.

FINAL RESULTS OF SARL VHF/UHF COMPETITION The September results are indicated in brackets.

FIELD STATION

1 ZS6MRK 9244.5 (1066.5)
2 ZS4BFN 4105.5 (696) 3 ZS6SRC 793.5 (0)

FIXED STATION MULTIMODE

1 ZS4SRK 10959 (979) 2 ZS6STN 3768 (522) 3 ZS4NS 1625 (130)

FIXED STATION FM ONLY These stations participated only in September

1 ZS6XT 195
2 ZR5DK 128 3 ZS5KL 92

FINAL OVERALL POSITIONS:

1 ZS4SRK 10959 2 ZS6MRK 9244.5 3 ZS4BFN 41055.5

Congratulations to all who entered and especially to the overall winners

NEXT RAE ON 23 MAY 2002

Rassie ZS1YT, chief RAE examiner, informed SARLNUUS that the next RAE will take place on Thursday 23 May 2002. The closing date for registration is already 16 April 2002. No late entries will be accepted. The registration fee for this examination is R235-00 which includes the successful candidate's first licence and the RAE certificate. Both are issued by ICASA. Every candidate must indicate a choice of 3 call signs on the registration form. The SARL will endeavour where possible to allocate one of the call signs to the candidate. The registration form for the RAE is available on the SARL website at www.sarl.org.za.

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL AND MOTIONS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next Annual General Meeting of the SARL will take place on 20 April 2002 and in preparation for the event, nominations and motions are called for.

There are currently 6 vacancies on Council and in terms of Rule 16.2 nominations are invited from members of the SARL to fill these vacancies. Should more than 6 nominations be received a ballot will be held.

Each nomination must contain the following:

1. Full names, callsign and address of nominee.
2. An amateur radio related CV of not more than 200 words.
3. A signed declaration by the nominee that s/he will accept nomination and serve on the Council of the SARL if elected.
4. Each nomination must be signed by a proposer and seconder.
5. Only fully paid-up members (Rule 16.3) of the SARL may be nominated, propose and second a nomination.

The nominations must reach the Secretary by no later than 30 November 2001. Motions for submission and consideration at the Annual General Meeting of the SARL are invited from members.

Each motion must contain the following:

1. A concise description of the motion.
2. A motivation in support of the motion.
3. Each motion must be signed by a proposer and a seconder.

The motions must reach the Secretary by no later than 14 December 2001.

The nominations and motions must be addressed to The Secretary, SARL and mailed to P O Box 101 465, Scottsville, 3209 or faxed to 033 260 5586. Other contact details are: Tel 033 260 5952 and E-Mail: zs5kd@futurenet.co.za.

ANTENNA LAWS WILL STILL BITE SOUTH AFRICAN AMATEURS

There was lots to learn "on how to keep your antennas up" from the lecture presented at the SARL's National Amateur Radio Centre

by Tim Ellam, VE6SH, last Wednesday evening. The attendance however indicated that South African Amateurs are not concerned that new regulations and the environmental impact act will touch them.

Tim Ellam, a Telecommunications lawyer, sketched the situation in Canada. Although the Regulator there has the final say on antenna structures, the regulations and rules of the city and district governments play an important role. The regulator takes a back seat and only makes his voice heard when a deadlock occurs. This is resulting in expensive court cases and environmental scooping exercises. South African Amateurs are worse off. The Regulator has no say on antenna structures, the final approval of an antenna structure rests with the metro city councils and in some areas regional councils. The Environmental Act lays down certain procedures but the competency has been passed on to the Provinces. In other words the provinces determine the rules and procedures which the metros and regional councils have to follow. This refers mainly to the environmental impact. The local authorities look at the safety and structural aspects. If organised Amateur Radio does not stay involved in the provincial processes, Radio Amateur could soon be paying in excess of R10 000 to have a scooping study done before submitting plans for approval. That is the reason the SARL installed the CPAS committee, a body with members representing each province to monitor development so that timely intervention can put the case for Amateur Radio Towers. This was successfully accomplished in KwaZulu-Natal. CPAS now has KZN and Eastern Cape and Western Cape represented. Will the rest of the country wait till it is too late?

Tim Ellam put forward many useful suggestions and dealt extensively with how an Amateur should interact with the neighbours, the local authority and what type of letters to use in the various cases. He presented the SARL with a copy of the book "Antenna and the law" co-authored by him as well as a CD with sample letters which with slight modification will serve us well. Some of the material will soon be placed in the members section of the SARL web. Clubs in the remaining provinces are urged to meet and appoint a mutual provincial representative on CPAS. Send his or her contact details to cpas@intekom.co.za.

RADIO AMATEUR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The first few nominations for the Radio Amateur of the Year Awards have been received. Although the closing date was 15 November, there is still till next Saturday, November 24 to fax or Email nominations.

Please read the instructions carefully. The awards are bestowed on persons for what they have contributed to Amateur Radio's development not for personal achievements like the youngest ham, the most awards. Nominations can be faxed to 012 991 5652 or sent by email armi@intekom.co.za. Look around your club, who has excelled in promoting amateur radio, who has made a technical contribution that

will benefit others. Nomination forms are on the SARL web:

www.sarl.org.za or may be requested by fax from 012 991 5652

AFRICA TELECOM 2001

The ITU Telecom Africa 2001 ended on Friday night. The main purpose of the IARU participation was to create a presence and to lobby African Ministries to support Amateur Radio at ITU conferences. Some interesting informal discussion took place which showed great promise for future support at the World Radio Conference 2003 and the development of Amateur Radio on the African Continent. In separate discussions both the Minister and the Director General of Communication undertook to expedite the new regulations containing the learners licence and the reduction in Morse code speed. Now that the telecommunications act is in its final stages in front of

Parliament and is expected to be signed into law by the State President soon, the climate has dramatically improved.

In the Disaster Communications Forum where Tim Ellam, representing the IARU President, presented a paper on Amateur Radio Emergency communication, much interest was shown. The question of reducing the Morse speed was also discussed in the forum with a representative from the South African Regulator stating that South Africa was to implement the new regulations soon. An interview with Tim Ellam will be broadcast in next week's Amateur Radio Mirror International.

Detailed reports are being prepared, putting together all the discussions, which will then result in a multilateral action plan. Stay tuned to this bulletin for more details as they emerge.

SARL TO PUBLISH CALL BOOK

The SARL is going to publish a printed Call Book in the very near future and we request ALL radio amateurs who have not changed their addresses and call signs, to notify HQ immediately so that all the information in the new call book will be as correct as possible. It will be most unfortunate if after going to all the trouble to print a new Call Book only to find hundreds of incorrect details.

Please accept that you may have sent in your details previously but please check to see whether your details have been correctly recorded. You can ask a SARL member who has a computer to do this for you or ask your Club officials to check for you. We want the Call Book to be as correct as possible and we can only do this with your assistance. We thank you in anticipation of your doing so.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARCONI'S HISTORIC TRANS-ATLANTIC RADIO TRANSMISSION

The Marconi Radio Club, W1AA and The Falmouth Amateur Radio

Association Amateur Radio operators are making plans to celebrate a Marconi world historical event. December 12, 2001 will mark the 100th anniversary of the first Trans-Atlantic radio transmission by Guglielmo Marconi. That signal was a series of " S S S " transmitted on CW across the Atlantic from Poldhu, Cornwall England to St John's, Newfoundland.

The Marconi Radio Club will be using the call sign W1AA/CC and will be operating from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, U.S.A. the location of Marconi's 1903 Trans-Atlantic radio station. Marconi's 1903 call sign was " C C ". See this link for times, frequencies and modes of operation for W1AA/CC: <http://www.qrz.com/database?callsign=w1aa> This message from: Bob Doherty K1VV

Also join us in the following activities: The President's Net on Sundays 12:00 on 7082 kHz; Amateur Radio Mirror International Sundays at 10:00 on 9750 and 21560 kHz which is repeated Mondays at 20:00 on 3215 kHz.

We thank all contributors, individuals, clubs and other organisations for contributions to this bulletin and all stations who so reliably relay the bulletins. This bulletin was compiled by Marten ZS6ZY, and read by.....from

You have been listening to ZS6SRL.

This bulletin now ends and Sarlnews wishes you a pleasant week.

Goodbye to all. /EX